

CLAIMS:

1. A clip for releasably closing bags and the like comprising in combination a pair of jaws elongated in an axial direction;

hinge means disposed adjacent one axial end of said jaws to permit relative rotation thereof between an open position and a closed condition wherein said jaws are mutually confronting substantially along their length;

latch means comprising mutually engageable ratchet elements associated with said jaws adjacent the axial end thereof opposed to said hinge means for releasably latching said jaws in their closed position;

said hinge means comprising a hinge pin and bearings therefor associated with said jaws; wherein said hinge means and said latch means is each adjustable so as to permit the clearance between said jaws when in their closed position to be varied.

2. A clip as defined in claim 1 wherein said hinge means and said latch means is each adjustable without necessitating the disassembly of said clip.

3. A clip as defined in claim 2 wherein said adjustable hinge means comprises a pair of transversely spaced apart, axially aligned cheeks associated with one of said jaws, each of said cheeks having a generally vertically oriented elongated opening therein, and a hinge pin slidable within said opening associated with the other of said jaws, and wherein said opening has a plurality of detents associated therewith for arresting the sliding movement of said hinge pin as desired.

4. A clip as defined in claim 3 wherein said detents comprise recesses within which said hinge pin is seatable.

5. A clip as defined in claim 4 wherein the bearing path has a cardioid form wherein all diametric chords are equal.

6. A clip as defined in claim 3 wherein said detents comprise a gear rack and said hinge pin is provided with a pawl selectively movable between interfering and non-interfering relationship with said rack.

7. A clip as defined in claim 6 wherein said pawl is unitarily formed with said hinge pin.

8. A clip as defined in claim 1 wherein said mutually engageable ratchet means comprises a plurality of ratchet teeth associated with one at least of said jaws.

9. A clip as defined in claim 8 wherein said plurality of ratchet teeth is mounted on a

flexible finger.

10. A clip as defined in claim 9 wherein the latch means includes a locating frame, and wherein the dimension of said finger on approach to the distal end thereof is diminished to facilitate the entry of the finger into said frame as said jaws are moved from an open position
5 towards a closed position.

11. A clip for releasably closing bags and the like comprising in combination
a pair of jaws elongated in an axial direction;

hinge means disposed adjacent one axial end of said jaws to permit relative rotation thereof between an open position and a closed condition wherein said jaws are mutually
10 confronting substantially along their length;

wherein said hinge means comprises a pair of opposed cheeks associated with one of said jaws, each said cheek having a bearing opening therein; and a hinge blade associated with the other of said jaws dimensioned to be snugly receivable between said cheeks;

said hinge blade having a generally cylindrical hinge pin formed unitarily therewith to
15 project outwardly therefrom on opposed axially aligned sides thereof engaged in said bearing openings.

12. A clip as defined in claim 11 wherein at least one said bearing opening is enlarged in comparison to the diameter of the hinge pin, thereby permitting the entry of the hinge pin into the bearing opening when canted.

20 13. A clip as defined in claim 12 wherein said cheeks form a part of a six-sided box open at two adjacent sides thereof.